Pipeline collapse in Thane, Mumbai

2436. SHRI TARIQ ANWAR: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a pipeline has collapsed in Thane in Mumbai recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of persons died and injured in this accident; and

(d) the action Government has taken against the responsible officials?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) to (d) Yes, Sir. On 23rd October 2009, a 43m long girder weighing approximately 125 MT launched across six Railway Tracks of Central Railways at km. 31/13-14 toppled from its position at about 10.35-10.45 AM. Girder fell on abutting Structural Steel Bridge carrying 500 mm dia-water supply pipeline. This led to collapse of structural steel bridge also. A local train approaching the place at the time collided with the fallen structures resulting in death of two persons and serious injuries to three others. An enquiry has been instituted in the matter by the Commissioner of Railway Safety.

Technical breakdowns in Delhi Metro

2437. SHRI ISHWAR SINGH: Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the technical breakdowns in Delhi Metro has increased and its services are on the verge of collapse;

(b) if so, the facts and details thereof;

(c) whether Government has directed DMRC to ensure faultless services to its commuters; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI SAUGATA RAY): (a) and (b) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation (DMRC) Ltd. has reported that technical breakdowns in Delhi Metro have not increased and that its services are not on the verge of collapse.

(c) and (d) Delhi Metro services are running reliably. Hence, the question of Government giving directions to DMRC does not arise.

Water disputes between States

2438. DR. E.M. SUDARSANA NATCHIAPPAN: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has taken notice of increasing number of cases in the courts on the water disputes between the States due to violation of lower riparian rights while new proposals for reservoir and diversion of water of upper part in other States; and

(b) if so, whether any proposal is contemplated to make the decision of Government final or otherwise, to create an independent permanent India River Water and Waterways Regulatory Authority?